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SUMMARY
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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LESS DEVELOPED AREAS

SUMMARY

Agenda Item : D.2.2

Mexico

INDUSTRIAL LOCATION

By Ignacio NAVARRO GIACOPELLO, Grad.

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INDUSTRIAL LOCATION

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1. In less developed countries a common characteristic is the existence of an unequal distribution of development.

2. The factors which tend to accentuate this feature are those derived from the free play of market influences, represented, inter alia, by the location not only of greater purchasing power but also of services and facilities which reduce operating costs, as well as qualified labour and means of communication.

3. The most suitable policy for distributing development consists in drawing up and putting into effect a programme of industrial expansion which provides for the general and long-term interests of the country.

4. Among the most effective formulae for planning industrial location is the creation of industrial zones in the areas of least relative economic development, with the object of avoiding industrial concentration and at the same time inducing uniform regional development.

5. These industrial zones may consist of different industries or of horizontally or vertically integrated complexes for certain sectors of industry, which will result in substantial economies derived from large-scale integration.

6. Among the incentives available to the State to encourage industrial areas are fiscal and credit measures.

7. The most notable advantages derived from the establishment of industrial areas are:

(a) Economy in land use.
(b) Minimization of transport costs.
(c) Economies in buying raw materials.
(d) Facilities for engaging labour.
(e) Institutional, administrative and social facilities.

8. The location of industrial centres will depend upon short-term price advantages to the ultimate consumer and long-term possibilities of international trade.

9. Other measures for achieving industrial re-distribution are regional development plans. In order for a development programme to be successful governments and local authorities must create adequate incentive structures and publicise their advantages and disadvantages. Technical studies must be carried out to determine the utilization of natural resources. Credit must be directed towards insufficiently developed areas with manifest possibilities and preference given to the creation of industries which offer the best possibilities of integration.

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